

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending. Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-6, and 8-14. Claims 2 and 7 have been objected to as allowable but dependant on a rejected base claim. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections and objections is respectfully requested.

In Applicant's prior response, Examiner was requested to change the attorney docket number in the Office Records and to change the correspondence address to Customer Number 29855. A change of correspondence address form was enclosed. The undersigned attorney notes that these changes were not performed. **The Examiner is again requested to change the correspondence address for this application to Customer Number 29855. The Examiner is also again requested to update the docket number to 199-0073US-C (P3848USX1).**

Rejections Under § 103

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious in view of U.S. Patent 6,101,997 to Ure ("Ure) and U.S. Patent 6,084,576 to Leu et al. ("Leu"). The undersigned notes that Examiner also cited U.S. Patent 5,825,252 to Bisset et al. ("Bisset"); however, the undersigned only received pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action. It appears that there were additional pages. If this response is not completely responsive, the Examiner is kindly requested to forward a complete office action to the undersigned at the address indicated on the attached change of correspondence address.

With regard to the obviousness rejection of claim 1 over Ure in view of Leu, Examiner concedes that "Ure does not teach testing whether this geometric arrangement [*i.e.*, the geometric arrangement of the fingers] matches that of a neutral, relaxed hand, or a hand whose fingers have been spread deliberately...." Examiner proposes that Leu supplies this missing limitation. Applicants respectfully disagree.

As Examiner notes, Leu teaches an ergonomic keyboard. In discussing the design of his keyboard and particularly the rationale for the key layout, Leu does discuss placement of various keys either close to the more relaxed position of the hand (the home

domain), an outward position (the extended domain), and a fully extended position (the maximum domain). Examiner contends that one skilled in the art would recognize that Ure's two finger combinations could be combined with Leu's key arrangement to produce the invention described in claim 1. This is simply not the case.

Despite Examiner's contention, the keyboard device in Leu does not perform the required "testing whether the geometric arrangement [previously measured] matches that of a neutral, relaxed hand, or of a hand whose fingers have been spread deliberately." The device in Leu is a keyboard. It will produce a signal corresponding to a particular key press regardless of whether the key is pressed by a finger in a particular configuration or not. The key could be pressed, for example, by a pencil held by the user, and the same output would result even though the hand/finger position of the user would be in no way related to the design parameters considered in the key layout. It is of no moment that Leu took certain anatomical aspects of a user's hand into account in selecting the key placement. Leu simply does not contain the testing of the measured geometric arrangement of the fingers required by claim 1. Therefore, the combination of Ure and Leu fails to teach each element of claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 are therefore requested.

Because the references cited fail to teach or suggest each limitation of claim 1, it is not necessary to address whether there is motivation to combine the references, although Applicant reserves the right to do so at a later date. In any event, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Each of the remaining claims depends, either directly or indirectly, from the rejected claim 1, and is therefore allowable for at least the reasons outlined above. Therefore, Applicant does not address Examiner's arguments with respect to those claims, but reserves the right to do so should that become necessary.

Because each of the currently pending claims is allowable for at least the reasons outlined above, Applicant respectfully requests that a notice of allowance for these claims issue.

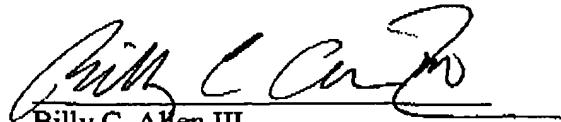
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if the Examiner believes that would be helpful for moving the case toward issue.

* * * *

Respectfully submitted,

August 9, 2005

Date


Billy C. Allen III
Reg. No. 46,147
Attorney for Assignee

CUSTOMER NO. 29855
Wong, Cabello, Lutsch,
Rutherford & Brucculeri, L.L.P.
20333 State Hwy 249, Suite 600
Houston, TX 77070
Phone 832/446-2409
Fax 832/446-2424

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at 571/273-8300 on the date below.

8-9-2005
Date


Rebecca R. Ginn